

REMARKS

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as anticipated by Schulz (the '640 patent). The '640 patent discloses short pinions 8, each short pinion in meshing engagement with two long pinions, but each long pinion is in mesh with only one short pinion. Claim 1 has been amended to distinguished the current invention over the '640 patent and the cited prior art. Specifically, claim 1 now recites that each of the long pinions meshes with two short pinions.

Claims 2-7 stand objected to because they contain allowable subject matter but depend from rejected claim 1. The amendment of claim 1, discussed in the immediately preceding paragraph, patentably distinguishes claim 1 over the cited prior art. Therefore, the basis for the objection to claims 2-7 has been overcome.

Claims 8-26 are allowed and have not been amended.

Claim 1-7, as amended, appear now in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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